

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." 1 Peter 4:7-8 KJV



This passage was written by the Apostle Peter in the first century. We are, now, in the twenty second. The end was “at hand” then, so how much closer is it, now? The difference between charity and “fervent charity” is fervent implies obsessive zealousness to the exclusion of other activity. “Watching unto prayer” means look for things needing prayer, not waiting for needs to become evident. Pray with one eye peeled for the appearing of our Blessed LORD and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and one ear tuned for the Last Trump and Shout which will announce our final flight to eternal bliss! *“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trump: for the Trumpet shall sound, and the dead (believers) shall be raised incorruptible. For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the Trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”* Believers should look for opportunities to help one another and pray for one another in these days of “the end.” Satan knows his time is short and is trying every insidious ploy to destroy faith. All Satan has to do to destroy men is entice them to disobey God; a lesson he learned well in Eden! He well knows that if allowed to shine, the Gospel will turn many of his slaves to God and righteousness. Jesus built His Church on the solid Rock of Truth and declared, *“I will build MY Church...and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I am...the Truth.”* The Gospel of Jesus Christ, God’s Word made flesh, is *“the power of God to salvation to everyone that believeth. Knowing this first, that there shall come in the Last Days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming?’”* and not even hell’s gates of blind unbelief can withstand Christ’s Church of Truth! Keep watching, praying, and loving the brethren while listening for the Saviour’s Shout announcing our eternal departure from sin and death! Don’t lose hope because of the darts of doubt hurled incessantly by hell’s imps to hinder our assault. Raise your shield of faith (obedience of God’s Word is the evidence of faith) and deflect them harmlessly away. Jesus said, *“a little while, and ye shall see me.”* He also called it *“a little while”* when referring to His earthly presence. Time is only the passage of events to God. When the events He purposed in Eternity past to precede His return have taken place, *“Then the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a Shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the Trump of God.”*

O’ watch and pray with charity,
Until the Blessed Lord you see,
You may at death with Him abide,
Or rise in air to His dear side. ~CGP

Since time is a hindrance only to unbelievers, know that God will be right on schedule to deliver the faithful from the jaws of evil, be it death of the body or His Second Coming. We must simply watch and wait. Either way, the faithful will join the Saviour forever!

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, ‘ALL power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.’ Amen.” Matthew 28:18-20 KJV